

INSTRUCTIONS

GIVEN BY

11630. c. 10
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R. England:—
King *HENRY* the Seventh,

TO HIS

EMBASSADORS,

When he intended to marry

The young Queen of *NAPLES*:

TOGETHER WITH

The ANSWERS of the EMBASSADORS.

L O N D O N :

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P R E F A C E.

LORD Bacon, in his *History of King Henry the Seventh*, tells us, "That in the Year 1505 the King
" had an Inclination to marry, and had heard,
" among others, of the Beauty, and virtuous Behaviour of
" the young Queen of Naples, Widow of Ferdinando the
" Younger, aged 27. He therefore sent, in Embassy,
" Three confident Persons, Francis Marfyn, James Bray-
" brooke, and John Stile, with Instructions, which were so
" curious and exquisite, being as Articles, whereby to direct
" a Survey, or framing a Particular, of her Person, for
" Complexion, Favour, Features, Stature, Health, Age,
" Customs, Behaviour, Conditions and Estate, as, if the
" King had been young, a Man would have judged him to
" be amorous; but being antient, it ought to be interpreted,
" that, surely, he was very chaste, for that he meant to
" find all Things in one Woman, and so to settle his Affections
" without ranging. But in this Match he was soon cooled,
" when he heard from his Embassadors," &c. &c.

As neither Lord Bacon, nor any other Historian, has
favoured the World with a Copy of these Instructions, which,
his Lordship says, were so curious and exquisite, there is no
Doubt

P R E F A C E.

Doubt but the Publick will be pleased with so valuable a Curiosity, which is now offered them by the Favour of a Descendant of one of the Three Embassadors, in whose Family the original Instructions, under the King's Sign Manual, together with the particular Answers, have been happily preserved. Part of them were published in The St. James's Chronicle of Thursday the 6th Instant; and the Eagerness with which they were immediately pirated by most of the other News-Papers, showed how valuable the Prize was esteemed. This has induced us to publish the following entire and correct Copy of the WHOLE; in which the Publick may be assured, the most faithful Accuracy has been observed.

The King's Sign Manual being remarkable, our Readers will be glad to see a Stamp of it, exactly copied from the Original.

August 12, 1761.

INSTRUCCIONNS

INSTRUCCIONNS *geven by*
the Kinges Highnesse to his trusty and Welbeloved Servauntes Fraunceys Marsyn James Braybroke and John Stile shewing howe they shall ordre theymself when they shall come to the presence of the old quene of Naples and the young Quene hir Doughter

ARTICLE I.

FURST aftrre presentacionn and Delyverance of fuche Lettres as they shall have with theym to be Delyvered to the said Quenes from the Ladie Katheryn princeffe of Wales making hir recommendacion and Declaration of fuche charges and Wordes as shall bee shewed and committed unto theym by the said princeffe to be opened and Declared on hir behalf to the said quenes they shall well note and marke thestate that they kepe, and howe they be accompanied with nobles and ladies.

A N S W E R.

Plesithe yowr Grace at owre comeynge unto the cite of Valencia the Whiche Was the xxij daye of June in the evenynge at the Whiche tyme the quynes of Napules bothe the olde and the yonge Sogenerd and Kepyd their howsehould Joyntly to gethers yn the Kynges Palysthat

ys a litell W^t owte the said cite of Valencya he Whiche Palys ys callid the Reyalles and on the Mornynge beyinge the xxij daye of June We sent thomas bradley the Whiche coude speke that langage un to the said Palys to the yntent that he shuld shawe un to Some of the quynes Servantes that the said quynes schuld have Knowliche of ovr comeynge and for to knowe their plesures when that we myzght come un to their presences for to present suche letters as that we had brouzght from the prynceesse of Wales their nice and cussyn the whiche cause was shawid un to the said quynes and their plesure and answer was shawid un to the said thommas bradley that we shuld come unto their presences at v of the Clocke at After noon the Same daye and so the said thommas cam and shawid to us where at the owre and tyme apoyntid we cam un to the said Palys where by a servant of the Said quynes we were convaied and browzght thorowe dyvers cham-burs the whiche were bare and not hangid and so in to a chambur that was hangid w^t blacke clothe and butt oon window open, and on the florth there was a grete carpette spred where on by the wyndows syde satte the old quyne and on hir lifte hand from the window wardes satte the yonge quyn bothe the said quynes were clothed in blacke clothe and also blacke kerches as mornors and in lyke case were all thay that wayted on the said quynes on the rizght hand of the quynes in the wyndow stode an anshient duke w^t alonge berd whos name ys the duk farnandyn of Napules & two of hys soones and other knygzghts & Jantilmen to the number of xx persons or there aboute & on the lefte hand of the quynes there satt the duches the wiffe of the said Duke farnandyn & a duches of the parties of grece & the markesa de chara the countessa de tortona & the countessa de montorio & doma marya de enrykes the old quynes nice & iij dowzghters of the duke farnandynes & other ladyes to the number & Jantilwomen of xvij or xx persons.

at ovr comeynge byfore the said quynes we knelid doune byfore theym & kyfid their hands & delyverd my lady the prynces letters unto the said quynes unto everyche of theym Severally w^t the reporte of the Recomendacions in the be halfe of my lady the prynces the whiche the said quynes ressayvid & toke fulthankefully & everyche of theym makeyng aunshever severally by theym selfe unto the said recomendacions & therefore gevyng their thanks w^t a gravite & constant contenance the yonge quyne had not many words more then thankeynge the prynceesse hyr cussyn of hir good & loveynge mynd that she wold send & wreit unto hir & asked for the welfare of hir cussyn my lady the prynceess

prynces wherof she said that he was glad for to hire for she had never seyn hir the old quyn had like wordes & many more the whiche we passid in comeunicacion As we be informyd that the said quynes have their logeynges everyche of theym severall by theymselfe & everyche of theym have their Servantes men wemen & sclavis by theym selfe not w^t stondeynge the said quynes do kepe their astates & howseholdys bothe Jontly to gethers as oon howsehold & the yonge quyne muche comonly & the olde quyne slepe bothe in oon chambur & they do kepe a grete howsehold of Jantilmen ladyes Jantilwemen sclavis & the old quyne Kepes a grete astate w^t a grete gravite for she hathe the kynges full power for to rule all the Reame of Valencia & so she Rulythe & ys abayed in althynges & no maner of person thar dothe contrary un to hir comandment & as we can persayve & hire the said quynes do kepe a nobill sad Rule & order in their howsehold & servantes.

ARTICLE II.

Item, to take good hyde and marke the states that the said Quenes kepe and whether they kepe their Estates and howseholdes apart or in oon house togedres and howe they be accompanied and what lordes and ladies they have aboutes theym.

A N S W E R.

As tucheynge this articule the pryncipall poyntes be reherfid in the furst articule by fore reherfid wherin hit spekithe that the Said quynes do kepe their astates joyntely to gethers w^t in oon hows & howe that daily there ys in the howsehold the duke farnandyn of napules that ys Steward unto the Said quyn and there ys also ij of his sonnes knygzhtes & iij of his douzghters ladyes & there ys an ancient knyzzght the quynes cussyn callid don pedro de Aragon & dyvers other knyzzghts & Jantilmen & other serveynge men Many & there ys a duchess of grece & ij of hir douzghters ladyes & there ys the markesa de chara the cowntessa de tortona the whiche ys the old quynes chamberleyn & the cowntessa de montorio & donya anaryna de aragon & doma marya de enrikes & doma Jeromina the counde of albaydas douzghter theis thre be the old quynes nices & many other Jantilwemen be there bothe of the reame of spayne & of napullis & many sclavis the whiche do Serve & be

be all as of oon howse & daily there ys fewte unto the said quynes corte bothe of Lordes sprerituall & temporall & other men and wemen of the said reame of Valencea for maters & causes in A maner as that they wold or myzght do un to their kynge.

In so muche as that at the departeynge of the said quynes from Valence towardes monvedro we sawe grete fewetes & many feweters come by fore the said old quyn the whiche dyvers of the Causes & maters the said quyne determyned & delyverd we beyng present.

ARTICLE III.

Item, If it shall fortune the Kinges said Servaunts to fynde the said Quenes keping their Estates togedres they shall well and assueredly note and marke the maner of keping and ordering theym in their Estates with the Countenaunce and maner of every of theym And suche answer as they shall make upon the speche and comunicacion as they shall have with theym at the delyverance of the said Letters and declaracion of thother maters before mencioned And to marke hir Discrecion Wisedom and gravitie in hir said comunicacion and answer in every behalf.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article as by fore we have in the other Articles reherfid all wayes hit hathe byn schawid unto us that ever sithens that the yonge quyne cam from Napules un to Spayne that the quyn hir moder hathe had hir contnewally in howsehold with hir & that Joyntly they do kepe their estates to gethers & where as on the xxviij day of June bothe the said quynes departid with their company from the cite off Valencia un to a towne iiij leges thens callid monvedro where as the old quyne the thrid daye of the monithe of July departyd from the said quyn hir douzghter then leveynge hir in monvedro & in hir company the Duke farnandyn & the duches his wiffe & the Duches of the parties of grece & the Marquesa de Chara & the countes off montorio & donya Maryna de aragon & donya Marya enrikes with the most parte of the nobill men & wemen that belonge un to the said quynes & there they for to wayete

wayete & geve atendance un to the said yonge quyne un to the comeynge agen of the said old quyne from the corte of hir brother the Kynge donfernando of castell & Aragon the whiche corte was then in the cite of Segovia.

And as for contenances & maner of everyche of the said quynes and of their anshewer that they made un to us at the delyverance of suche letters as that we browzght un to theym from my lady the prynces furst the old quyn aunshewerd for hir selfe as a nobill wise woman & after the yonge quyn with a sad & a nobill fewrid contenance with a good delyberacion & with grete discrecion utterid & spake suche wordes as plesid hir & not haveynge many wordes nor moveyng contenance but full stedfast & with no hizghe speche & after the maner of that contrey with a nobill gravitie & not to bold but somewhat shamefast womanly.

ARTICLE IV.

Item, They shall in like wise endeavor theym to undrestande whether the yong Quene speke any other langages then Spaynyshe and Italyon and whether she can speke any frenche or latenn.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article asfarre that we can understond & knowe that the said yonge quyn can speke no langages exscepte Spaynyshe and Italian hit is said that she understondithe bothe latyn and fraynshe but she spekithe nonn.

ARTICLE V.

Item, Specially to marke and note well the age and stature of the said yong Quene and the feturys of hir bodye.

A N S W E R.

As to this Article as to the Age of the said yonge Quyn hit ys xxvij off yeres old & not much more & as to the stature of hir person we can not perfetely understond nor knowe for comeunly when that we camm un to hir presence hir grace was sytteynge on a pelowe & other

ij tymes we sawe hir on hir foote goynge over thwarte a chambur that was not broode wher she cam yn at adore & cam un to the quyne hir moder beyng in the Same chambur & satt adowne by hir at the whiche bothe the tymes she ware Scippers after the maner of the contrey in suche wyse that we cowde not come to any perfite knowliche of the heizghte of the Said quyn.

And as to the fetures of hir body of the said yong quyn for as muche as at alltymes that we have seyn hir grace ever she had a grete mantell of clothe on hir in suche wyse after the maner of that contrey that aman shall not lizghtely perseyve any thyng exsepte oonly the visage wherfore we cowde not be in centeyn of any suche fetures of hir body but as farrre as that we can perseyve & Juge that she ys of no highe stature but of a myddell stature after our Jeugement by the reason of the heizghte of hir slippers wherof wee have seyn an ensampell.

ARTICLE VI.

Item, Specially to marke the favor of hir visage whether she bee paynted or not & whether it be fatte or leene sharpe or Rownde and whether hir countenaunce bee chierfull and amyable frownyng or malincolyous stedfast or light or blusshing in comunicacion.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule as farre as that we can perseyve or knowe that the said quyn ys not paynted & the favore of hir vialege ys after hir stature of a verrey good compas and amyabille. & some what Round & fatte & the contenance cheirfull & not frowneyng & stedfast & not lizght nor boldehardy in speche but with a demewre womanly shamefast contenance & of fewe words as that we coude perseyve as we can thynke that she uttered the fewer words by cause that the quyn hir moder was present the whiche had all the Sayengs & the yonge quyn fatte as demeure as a mayden & some tyme talkeynge withe ladyes that fatte aboute hir with a womanly lawzgheyng chere & contenance & with a good agravite alweys the ladyes talkeynge with hir haveynge their contenances to wardes hir grace with reverences & onor & obediens.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE VII.

Item, To note the clerenesse of hir skynne.

ANSWER.

As to thys Article the said quyn ys verry fayre & clere of skynne as farre as that we cowde perseyve by hir vyfage necke & handes the whiche we sawe & well perseyvid.

ARTICLE VIII.

Item to note the colours of hir here

ANSWER.

As to thys Article by that we cowde see & perseyve by the browes of the said quyne & by the ends of some of hir heres that We perseyved thorowe hir kerschewes hit schuld seme hir here to be a browne here of colore.

ARTICLE IX.

Item to note well hir Ies browes tethe and lippes

ANSWER.

As to thys Article the Ies of the said quyne be of colore browne some what grayeshe

And hir browes of a browne here & verry small lyke a wyre of here

And hir tethe faire & clene & as farre as that we cowde perseyve well sette

And hir lippes somewhat rounde & thycke acordeynge the proposhion of hir visage the whiche rizght welbecomythe the said quyne.

ARTICLE X.

Item to marke well the fassion of hir nose and the heithe and brede of hir forehedde

ANSWER.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule the fashon of hir nose ys a litell Riseynge in the mydward & a litell comeynge or bowynge to wards the end & sheys myche lyke nosid unto the quyn hir moder.

And as to hir forehed the heighte or the breid therof we cowdenot perfectly diferne for the maner of the wereynge of the kerches or tuckas in that contrey ys suche that a man can nott welle Juge hit for their kerches comeynge downe to their browes & muche the lesse we cowde come by the verry knowliche of that cause for that the quyn werid blacke kerches.

A R T I C L E X I.

Item, Specially to note hir complexion.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule as farre as that we can persayve & knowe the said quyn ys of a verrey fayre Sangwyn complexion & clene.

A R T I C L E X I I.

Item, To marke hir armes whether they bee grete or smale long or shorte.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule as that we can persayve & knowe that the armes of the said quyn be Some what rounde & nott verry small by that we cowde persayve when that she puttforthe hir hand When that we dyd kys hit & as to the lengithe of hir Arme unto owr understondynge that hit ys of a good proposhion acordynge unto hir personage & stature of heighte.

A R T I C L E X I I I.

Item, To see hir hands bare and to note the fascion of them whether the palme of hir hand be thikke or thynne and whether hir hands be fatte or leene long or shorte.

ANSWER.

A N S W E R.

As to thys articule we sawe the handes of the said quyn bare at thre Sondry tymes that we kyssyd hir said handes wherby we persayvyd the said quyn to be rizghte faire handy'd & acordeynge unto hir personaje they be somewhat fully & Softe & faire & clene skynnyd.

A R T I C L E X I V .

Item, To note hir fyngers whether they be long or shorte smale or grete brode or narowe before.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule the fyngers of the said quyn be rizghte faire & smalle & of a meitly lengithe & brede byfore acordeynge unto hir personage verrey faire handid.

A R T I C L E X V .

Item, To marke whether hir nekke be longe or shorte smale or grete.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule the necke of the said quyn ys fully & comely & not mysschappen nor verrey shorte nor very longe but meitly after the proposhion of hir personaje but hir necke semythe for to be the shorter by cause that hir brestes be fully & somewhat bygge.

A R T I C L E X V I .

Item, To marke hir brestes and pappes whether they be bigge or smale.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule the said quynes brestes be somewhat grete & fully & in as muche as that they were trussid somewhat highe after
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the maner of contrey the whiche causithe hir grace for to seme muche the fullyer & hir necke to be the shorter

ARTICLE XVII.

Item, To marke whether there appere any here aboutes hir lippes or not.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article as farre as that we can persayve & see that the said quyn hathe no here apereyne abowte hir lippes nor mowthe but she ys very clereskynned.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Item, That they endeavor theym to speke with the said yong quene fasting and that she may telle unto theym some matter at lengthe and to approche as nere to hir mouthe as they honestly maye to thentent that they may fele the condition of hir brethe whether it be fwete or not And to marke at every tyme when they speke with hir if they fele any favour of spices Rose Waters or muske by the brethe of hir mouthe or not.

A N S W E R.

As to this Article we cowde never come unto the speiche of the said quyn fasteynge wherfore we cowde nor mizght not atayne to knowliche of that part of this Article

Notwithstondyng at suche other tymes as we have spoken & have had comeunicacion with the said quyne we have aproched as nize unto hir visage as that we conveniently mizght do & we cowde fele no favor of any spices or waters and we thynke verely by the favor of hir visage & clenens of complexion & of hir mowthe that the said quyne ys lyke for to be of a fewit favor & well eyred.

ARTICLE XIX.

Item, To note the height of hir stature and to enquire whether she were any slippers and of what height hir slippers

pars bee to thentent they be not deceyved in the veray height and stature of hir And if they may come to the sight of hir flippers then to note the fassion of her foote.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article of the heyzght & stature of the said yonge quyne as in the 5th Article in thys booke by foore hit ys anshewerd that we cowde not come by the parfite knowliche of hir heizghte for as muche as that hir grace werithe slippers after the maner of the contrey wherof we sawe the fayshion the whiche be of Six fyngers brede of heizghte large & hir foote after the porpocion of the same ys butt small but by the sclipper the gretenes of hir foote can notbe knownen notwithstandinge by the heizght of hir slipper confiderynge the heizght that she apered unto owr sizghte beyng a foote hir grace femythe not to be of non hizghe stature & also by cause of the maner of the clotheynge that Wemen do use & were after the maner of the contrey & also she of hir selfe ys somewhatt Round and welle lekeynge the whiche causithe hir grace for to seme the lesser in heizghte.

A R T I C L E . XX.

Item, To enquere whether she have any sekeneffe of hir nativitie Deformitie or blemmysshe in hir bodye and what that shuld bee or whether she hath been comunely in helthe or sometyme feke and sometyme hole and to knowe the specialties of suche Diseases and sekeneffe.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article We have inquerid for to come by the knowliche thereof to the beste that we can & as hit hath byn by us considered that suche Secrete cause be unto All persons unknoweyng exsepte unto hir fuseshions potecarye or secrete Wemen of hir chambur & for the next remedy for to come by any knouliche thereof We aquayntid us with oon pascarell a napotalyan the whiche ys a Wyse man & he ys potecary & in maner fushecian unto the said quynes bothe to the olde & the yonge With the whiche potecary we had dyverfs tymes passe tymes & comeu-

comeunicacions amonges the whiche Some tymes we ashid fuche questions yef that the said yonge quyn had any fuche infirmytes as in the said Articles before be specified wherun to the said potecary said y have servid the said quyn many yerēs beyngē hir grace a litell child hether un to. And ever she hathe byn in as muche helthe as any Jantilwoman that ever he had knowen & of so nobill a nature & complexion haveynge in hir person no difcomformyte nor cause of sekeneffes.

XXI.

Item, Whether she be in any singular favour with the king of Aragon hir uncle and whether she have any resemblance in visage countenance or complexionn to hym

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article we have understoud by the sayenges of many & dyverse persons the kynge of Aragon favorithe & rizght muche lovithe the old quyne his suster the whiche quyne ys alyke un to the said kynge hir brother as any man & woman maye be leike un to another & also rizght muche he lovithe & favorithe the yonge quyn hys niece & that the said kinge intendes for to promote hir un to some excelent maryaje & that she shalhave as muche or more of his giste then any of his awne dowzghters had for somewhat of favor the said yonge quyne ys like un to the said kynge hir unkl & speceally in the fassion of hir nose & complexion.

More over acomon sayenge ys in all spayne & in the Kyngs corte that the said yonge quyne shal be maried un to the kynge of yngland owr suffereyn lorde by the mean and labores of the kynge hir unkill.

XXII.

Item, To enquere of the maner of hir Diet and whether she bee a grete fedar or Drynker and whether she useth often to ete or drynke and whether she drynketh wyne or Water or bothe.

A N S W E R.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Article hit hathe byn schawid unto us by oon pascarell the whiche ys potecary un to the said quyne and also by oon Sorya the whiche ys a howsehold servant that theis ij persons be muche in the presens of the said quyn when that she eetithe & drynkithe & as they do reporte & saye that the said quyn ys a good feder & eettes well hir meit twyes on a daye & that hir grace drynkithe not often & that she drynkithe most commonly Water & some tyme that Water ys boyled with synamon & some tyme she drynkithe ypocras but not often.

A R T I C L E XXIII.

Item, The kyngs said servauntes shall also at their commyng to the parties of Spayne Diligently enquire for some conyng paynter havng good experience in making and paynting of visages and portretures and fuche oon they shall take with theym to the place Wher the said quenes make their abode to thentent that the said paynter maye drawe a picture of the visage and semblance of the said yonge quene as like unto hir as it can or maye bee conveniently doonn. Whiche picture and Image they shall substancially note and marke in every pointe and circumstance soo that it agree in similitude and likenesse as nere as it may possible to the veray visage countenaunce and semblance of the said Quene And in case they may perceyve that the paynter at the furst or seconde making therof hath not made the same parfaite to hir similitude and likenesse or that he hath omitted any seture or circumstance either in colours or other proporeions of the said visage then they shall cause the same paynter or some other the most conyng paynter that they can gete soo oftentymes to renewe and reforme the same picture till it be

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made:

made perfaite and agreable in every behalf with the veray Image and vifage of the faid Quene.

The Embassadors returned no Answer to this Article.

A R T I C L E XXIV.

Item; The kings faid fervaunts by the Wifest Wayes that they cann use fhall make inquisition and enferche what land or lyvelood the faid yong Quene hath or fhallhave afre the Deceffe of hir mother either by the title of Jointer or otherwise in the Reame of Naples or in any other place or contraye what is the yerely value therof And whether ſhe fhallhave the fame to hir and hir heres forever orells during hir lif oonly And to knowe the ſpecialties of the title and value therof in every behalf as nere as they fhall mowe.

A N S W E R.

As to thys Articule as we were in formyd at Valencia by a Man of Santesebaffians in gwypufca the whiche man ys callid Martyn de albiftur Master of a ſhippe the whiche many yeres had continewed in the Servife & Warres of the Kynge don fernando of Napules & knewe rizght muche the demenor & aſtate of the faid donfernando & of his Reame Whereuppon the faid martyn de albiftur ſhawed un to us that the old Kynge don fernando of Napules granted & gave un to the old quyn hys Wiſſe xlm Docades of yerely rent un to hirre & hir eyres for ever more the Whiche lands & rentts be parte wth in the Reame of Napules & the Poylya & parte in cecilya alſo the ſaid old Kinge don fernando gave & grawntid vn to the yonge quyn his dawzghter xxxm docades of yerely rentt within the Reame of Napules & the poylya for for to have un to hir & hir eyres for ever more all the whiche landes & renttes the faid martyn de albiftur ſaid that bothe the faid quynes had of the rizght well in Joyed & taken the profite of theym as well in the tyme frenſhe

frenshe kynge haveynge the Reame of Napules as by fore tyme thay had wth owte any ynterupshion.

And after thys hit was schawid un to us by oon pascarell the whiche ys potecary unto the said quynes & he ys a napotalian & he hathe longe contened in the Service of the said ladyes the whiche shawid un to us that boothe the quynes maye dispend no more wth in the Reame of Napules & cicelya but xliijm docades of the whiche the old quyn maye dispend xviiijm docades & the yonge quyn xxiiijm & that thys was grantid un to theym & to their eyres for ever more as by fore ys shawid.

The said pastarello faithe that sythen that the Reame of Napules cam & hathe byn in the kynge of castells handes that the said quynes never have resayvid no rentts nor profites of the Reame of Napules for the grette capitan there Gonsalo fernandes dothe resayve hit by the comondment of the kynge of castell & therewth he dothe paye the men of Warre in that parties & so the kynge of castell payes & geves un to the said quynes xv or xvijm docads yerly owte of his coffers for their expences & maynteneynge of their estates.

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F I N I S.

